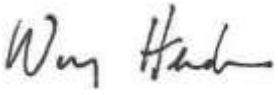


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson   
Administrator

Re: **Notice of Available Funding: Youth Justice Innovation Grants - All Counties May Apply**

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to inform counties of an opportunity to pursue innovative youth justice projects at the local level. Utilizing underspending in CY 2019 Youth Aids, DCF is offering another round of Youth Justice Innovation Grants to support counties in launching new, innovative youth justice projects and practices.

## BACKGROUND

State statute {s. 48.526(3)(e)} allows the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to carry forward unused Youth Aids funds (underspending) from one calendar year to the next two calendar years. This money has previously been allocated through "Early Intervention" grants. In the fall of 2017, DCF invited applications for the first round of Innovation Grant funding due to greater than expected underspending for CY2016.

From this point forward, DCF will grant money to the counties under s. 48.526(3)(e) (underspending) through Innovation Grants. As in previous years, the amount of funding to be granted will vary depending on the amount of underspending.

## INFORMATION SUMMARY

Complete information about how to apply is in the attached application packet. Counties may apply for a \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$150,000 grant in one of three topic areas. All grant awards need to be spent between September 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021. Grants will be awarded through a competitive process.

Counties already receiving Innovation Grant funds for 2019-20 may apply for a Continuation Grant equal to 50% of their 2019-20 initial award, but not a new Innovation Grant. Recognizing the disruptive impact

of COVID-19 on initial plans, a limited amount of continuation funds equal to 75% of 2019-20 initial awards are also available, though counties seeking this level of support should be prepared to justify why DCF funding beyond 50% of initial award is necessary. Continuation Grants must be spent between January 1 and December 31, 2021 and will be awarded through a competitive process.

The attached packet provides information needed to apply for these funds, which must serve the overall purpose of Youth Aids funds to purchase or provide “community-based juvenile delinquency-related services” and must fall within one of the three topic areas described in the attachment. The attachment also describes the required elements for each topic area and the application process.

An optional conference call will be held on Friday, July 24, 2020 from 10am-11am to answer any questions. The call-in number is 1-877-820-7831, and the passcode is 166446#.

Applications must be completed and emailed to DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov no later than the end of the day on **Friday, August 7, 2020.**

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Youth Justice Policy Coordinator  
Bureau of Youth Services  
(608) 422-6899  
DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEB SITE: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos>

Attachments: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/yj> (Innovative Practice tab)  
2020-21 Youth Justice Innovation Grants Application Packet